

# Warmwater Fishes of Washington



Report # FM93-9



# CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	1
THE SUNFISH FAMILY: CENTRARCHIDAE .....	1
Largemouth Bass .....	2
Smallmouth Bass .....	3
Bass Slot Limits .....	3
Black Crappie/White Crappie .....	4
Bluegill and Pumpkinseed .....	5
Rock Bass, Warmouth and Green Sunfish .....	6
THE PERCH FAMILY: PERCIDAE .....	7
Yellow Perch .....	7
Walleye .....	7
THE CATFISH FAMILY: ICTALURIDAE .....	8
Brown Bullhead .....	8
Yellow Bullhead and Black Bullhead .....	9
Channel Catfish .....	10
Other Catfish .....	10
THE PIKE FAMILY: ESOCIDAE .....	11
Tiger Musky .....	11
Northern Pike and Grass Pickerel .....	11
COMMON CARP: <i>Cyprinus carpio</i> .....	12
THE WARMWATER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM .....	12
UNAUTHORIZED FISH INTRODUCTIONS .....	14
LOCATION TABLES .....	15
Appendix A (list of lakes with warmwater fishes) .....	16

## TABLES

Table 1: Warmwater Fisheries Trends in Washington .....	1
Table 2: Warmwater Fish Production since 1996 .....	12
Table 3: Warmwater Fish Stocked since 1996 .....	13

# WARMWATER FISHES OF WASHINGTON

## INTRODUCTION

Before the late 1800s, the only resident freshwater fish living in Washington State were trout (cutthroat and rainbow), char (bull trout and Dolly Varden), non-anadromous salmon (kokanee), whitefish, burbot, northern pikeminnow, suckers and smaller fish generally unimportant to anglers. But as the human population started to increase, it became evident that the most accessible lowland lakes and streams with natural trout populations could not withstand heavy fishing pressure. In addition, many immigrants to the Northwest longed for more-familiar species they had caught in their midwestern, eastern and southern homelands.

The result was a widespread and often indiscriminate importation of game species from other parts of the nation. Predominantly by means of railroad, and often under the direction of the United States Fish Commission, millions of young bass, crappie, other sunfish such as bluegill, plus yellow perch and catfish joined in the westward movement. Brook trout (char), lake trout (also char) and brown trout (originally from Europe) were also introduced. Many of these introductions fulfilled their intended purpose, providing angling opportunities where none might otherwise exist.

As shown in Table 1, warmwater game fish are the fastest-growing segment of Washington's resident sport fishery. The number of warmwater anglers increased from an estimated 170,000 in 1968 to 334,000 in 1994. During this same period, the number of warmwater angler-days increased from 2.1 million to almost 6.2 million; the percentage of all resident game fish anglers fishing for warmwater species increased from 52.3% to 62.7%; and the number of Washington anglers indicating a preference for warmwater species increased from 23% to 34.3%.

### The First Introductions

According to Ben Hur Lampman in *Coming of the Pond Fishes* (published in 1946, and the basis for most historical information in this document), the earliest introduction of exotic fish in the Northwest was carp in 1880. More on carp later in this book. As most readers probably realize, carp are not a favorite in the Northwest, for either anglers or fisheries managers.

Other introduced fish have been received more "warmly" than carp. By 1900, warmwater species were common in many of the lowland lakes of the state. Because of their tremendous reproductive potential, they were soon providing anglers with a wider choice of fishing opportunity in nearly all parts of the Northwest.

**Table 1:**  
**Warmwater fisheries trends in Washington**

CATEGORY	1968	1986	1994	AVG. ANNUAL PCT. INCREASE
NO. OF ANGLERS	170,000	244,000	334,000	3.7%
NO. OF ANGLER-DAYS	2,100,000	3,100,000	6,174,000	7.5%
NO. OF TRIPS PER YEAR PER ANGLER	12.3	14.8	18.5	1.9%
PCT. FISHING FOR WARMWATER SPECIES	52.3%	54.8%	62.7%	0.8%
PCT. PREFERRING WARMWATER SPECIES	23.0%	29.6%	34.3%	1.9%

In the past, various warmwater species were called "spiny-rays" because most of them have rigid fin rays (spines). Salmon, trout, char and whitefish, on the other hand, have only soft rays. Fisheries managers today prefer the term "warmwater" game fish for the so-called spiny-rays, and "coldwater" game fish for salmon, trout, char and whitefish.

Warmwater species in Washington now represent four families: **Centrarchidae**, the sunfish family; **Esocidae**, the pike family; **Ictaluridae**, the catfish family; and **Percidae**, the perch family. Becoming acquainted with identification and habits of these fish will open new fields of interest and opportunity for anglers. For assistance identifying these species, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has a poster titled *Warmwater Fish of Washington*, and color illustrations of many species can be found in the fishing regulations pamphlet.

## THE SUNFISH FAMILY: CENTRARCHIDAE

This is the most important family of warmwater fish in Washington, represented by nine species. Sunfish are characterized by the presence of rigid fin rays (the "spines") and only one dorsal fin. Members of this family spawn in late spring or early summer. The males excavate circular depressions in one to ten feet of water in which females deposit their eggs. Males guard the nest during incubation and early fry growth.

### Largemouth Bass *Micropterus salmoides*

Largemouth bass are the best-known and most popular warmwater game fish in Washington, and by most accounts, the most popular game fish in the country. Nicknames include “bucketmouth,” “green bass,” “bigmouth,” “black bass” and “linesides.”



Aptly described by its common name, no other member of the family has such a large mouth. The mouth size provides one way of distinguishing the largemouth; its maxillary (upper jaw joint) extends back **past** the center of the eye, farther than any other freshwater bass.

Other aids in identification include:

- a) The dorsal fin is nearly divided into two parts
- b) A dark band runs longitudinally the length of the body

Coloration is variable, but usually a darkish green on the back and sides, fading to an off-white on the belly. Water clarity and chemical composition, bottom color, and the depth from which fish are taken, can affect coloration. The dark lateral band may be hard to see on largemouth taken from highly turbid waters.

Largemouth begin their spawning activity in the spring when water temperatures reach 60 to 65° F. Firm bottom areas about three feet in depth are preferred, but successful spawning is sometimes accomplished over earth, sand and even silted bottoms. In tidal areas, such as the lower Columbia River, largemouth have been observed spawning on log rafts and other wood that floats up and down with the tide, thus maintaining a constant depth. In lakes, the amount of relatively shallow water effectively determines the carrying capacity for largemouths, for this is the area in which they make their living.

Largemouth bass are skilled predators. They feed not only by sight, but also use their highly-developed olfactory and auditory senses. The lateral line functions as a sensitive low-frequency sound receptor, allowing bass to zero in on their prey in highly turbid waters or during the darkest nights. Bass can also distinguish a wide range of colors.

As most bass anglers know, this fish is a temperamental but voracious feeder. At all ages bass devour large food organisms. Even when only three-

fourths of an inch long, the young will try to swallow other small fish. Largemouths commonly feed on fish, crawfish, frogs, large insects—even snakes, mice and small birds if available. This highly-varied appetite has led to an even larger variety of lures designed to catch largemouths.

Popular lures include surface plugs that jerk, sputter, splatter and pop; diving plugs with and without built-in sound chambers; rubber, plastic, feather and hair-adorned lead-head jigs; fake frogs, mice, snakes and even birds; an assortment of spinners and spoons; pork rind; and soft plastic lures such as worms, grubs, leeches and crawfish. All of these lures are offered in a plethora of colors, patterns and finishes.

One popular technique for largemouth fishing is casting noisy surface lures from a boat toward shallow, weedy shorelines, around cover such as lily pads and stumps. Fly fishers use poppers, deerhair mice and other large flies. Plastic worms and lead-head jigs retrieved slowly across the bottom are one of the most productive largemouth lures, especially in deeper water or when the fish can't be coaxed to the surface. Whatever enticement is offered, largemouth are generally found near cover, either aquatic vegetation, stumps, docks, rocks, or on the bottom near obstructions or changes in depth.

A favored method of landing bass is to stick a thumb into their mouth, then pinch the lower jaw between the thumb and curled index finger and lift. A firm grip on the lip seems to help immobilize the fish, making them easier to unhook and release. But you should **never** hold a bass by the lip and extend the fish horizontally if you plan to release it alive. This has been shown to injure the fish.

Bass have cartilaginous teeth, more noticeable in larger fish, so a scraped thumb is possible when using the lip-landing technique. Be especially careful “lipping” a fish that has been hooked on a plug with treble hooks; one small shake of the head can bury a hook point in the nearest hand.

Like all fish, bass are cold-blooded. Their metabolic rate, and therefore their need for food, varies with water temperature. In very cold water, little feeding occurs, although persistent anglers still manage to catch fish throughout the winter where seasons allow. In fact, larger bass seem to feed more actively than smaller ones during cold periods. As waters warm in the spring, bass become much more active, and generally remain so through the summer and into fall. There may be periods of feeding inactivity associated with spawning, and weather conditions can also have an effect. Largemouth can sometimes be tempted into striking even when they're not actively feeding, merely by repeatedly placing a lure in front of them and taking advantage of their pugnacious nature.



The first authenticated planting of bass in the Northwest took place in 1888, in Oregon's Willamette River. In Washington, the United States Fish Commission in 1890 distributed 1,220 largemouth among Lake Washington on the west side, and Lake Colville (now known as Sprague Lake) and Loon Lake on the east side. In 1891 Loon and Liberty lakes shared another 125 fish. In 1892 Clear, McDonald, American, Loon, Deer, Liberty and Gravelly lakes divided 3,457 largemouth. (*Note: there are now at least 17 Clear lakes in Washington; it's not "clear" which of these is referred to.*) 1893 saw another 400 largemouth shared by Clear, Padden and Shepherd lakes and an unnamed public lake in Skagit County. In 1895, Loon, Cavanaugh, Silver (*not specifically identified, probably Cowlitz County; we have 11 or more Silver Lakes*), St. Clair, Welty and Clear lakes split 625 fish. Within a few years of the first introduction, largemouth were reportedly being sold in Spokane fish stalls for 15 to 17 cents a pound.

In the years since, largemouth bass have been extensively transplanted throughout the state. Our most popular and productive largemouth waters include all of the major reservoirs of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project, including Banks Lake, Moses Lake and Potholes Reservoir (Grant County). Silver Lake (Cowlitz County), Eloika and Long lakes (Spokane County) and Sprague Lake (Adams County) are other good producers. Largemouth are also found in both free-flowing and impounded parts of the Columbia and Snake rivers, and in hundreds of smaller lakes, ponds and slow-moving streams throughout the state. See the appendix for a list of lakes containing largemouth and other warmwater species.

### Bass Slot Limits

Effective May 1, 2002, bass in most of the state are managed with a "slot limit" size regulation. The slot limit requires release of bass within a size range, or "slot." That size range is currently 12 to 17 inches; only bass shorter than 12 inches or longer than 17 inches can be kept, with only one fish longer than 17 inches allowed in the daily limit of five bass. Prior to 2002, slot limits were in effect in certain lakes only, while others had minimum size limits and some had no special bass regulation.

Currently (as of May 1, 2004), exceptions to the statewide slot limit occur in Coffeepot, Moses and Stan Coffin lakes and the Columbia (up to Priest Rapids Dam), Snake, Touchet, Walla Walla and Yakima rivers. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for details.

Note that bass slot limits apply only to largemouth and smallmouth bass, **not** to rock bass, described later.

### Smallmouth Bass *Micropterus dolomieu*

Although sometimes confused with largemouth, the smallmouth is a distinctly different fish, not only in appearance but in habit and habitat as well. Other names applied to the smallmouth include "bronzeback," "red-eye" and "brown bass."



The common name of this species is also appropriate, since its mouth is considerably smaller than its largemouth cousin. The smallmouth's upper jaw does not extend back past the center of the eye.

Other identifying characteristics include:

- a) The spinous and soft-rayed parts of the dorsal fin are not separated as much as in the largemouth
- b) No longitudinal stripe; the appearance is often mottled with dark vertical bars

As with the largemouth, coloration is variable depending on environmental factors. Generally, the back and sides are a yellowish-brown (hence the name "bronzeback"), but sometimes very dark brown, almost black, shading to a lighter-colored or whitish belly. And, as another of its nicknames implies, the eye is usually reddish.

Smallmouth thrive in lakes, rivers and streams that reach summer temperatures of 60 to 70° F and have gravel bottom areas for spawning. During optimum temperatures, look for them near rocks and just off the edge of current. Feeding activity is likely to be greatest during low light periods: dawn, dusk, and on overcast days. Spawning activity begins when the water warms to above 55°. The success of smallmouth in lakes depends on the availability of suitable spawning areas and temperatures.

Most experienced bass anglers will agree that pound-for-pound, smallmouth are stronger and more acrobatic fighters than their largemouth relatives. Several powerful jumps trying to throw the hook are common, and many an angler has been fooled by a

“smallie” into thinking a much larger fish was on the line. Like largemouth, they can be landed by “lipping,” and also like largemouth, a scraped thumb can result from the fine teeth.

Smallmouth diet is not quite as varied as that of largemouth. Preferred prey items include smaller fish, crawfish and aquatic insects. Lure selection is similar to that for the largemouth, except the fake frogs, mice, snakes and birds are not commonly used. Use smaller lures to match the smaller mouth and usually smaller prey. Two to three-inch, medium and deep-diving plugs are popular in a variety of finishes (be sure to include crawfish), along with smaller surface plugs, spinners, three and four-inch plastic grubs, and small jigs and plastic worms. Bait such as nightcrawlers works well, but remember that fish hooked on bait are harder to release alive, and smaller fish are more likely to be caught on bait.

The history of smallmouth bass in Washington is not as well-documented as for largemouth. The first planting was apparently before 1924, in a small lake on Blakely Island in Puget Sound. A number were planted in the Yakima River in 1925 by N. E. Palmer, a state game protector. A shipment of 5,000 had been received in Seattle, intended for planting in a nearby lake. That lake was improperly screened at the outlet, so state supervisor of game J. Warren Kinney had them re-shipped to Benton County, where the survivors were released in the lower Yakima. **Just four years later, in 1929, a six-pound smallmouth from the Yakima River, caught by E. J. Farley of Prosser, won second place in the *Field and Stream* national contest.**

In 1934, game protector Palmer made a second planting in the Yakima, which he testified were “seined from Lake Washington.” This bit of history is confusing, since at the time *Coming of the Pond Fishes* was published (1946), the Washington Game Department claimed no knowledge of smallmouth bass in Lake Washington. They are well-established there now, however, so may have been there in 1946 unbeknownst to the department.

Significant smallmouth populations are now well-established in the Columbia, Snake, Yakima, Okanogan and Grande Ronde rivers, and in Lake Washington, Lake Sammamish, Lake Stevens, Lake Osoyoos, Moses Lake, Potholes Reservoir, and several other smaller lakes on both sides of the Cascade mountains. Range of the smallmouth has been expanded by the former Department of Wildlife through a program of selective transplantation aimed at increasing fishing opportunities

and success rates for this very popular sport fish. Successful smallmouth fisheries as a result of this program include Banks Lake, Lake Whatcom, Palmer Lake, Riffe Lake and Lake Goodwin.

### **Black Crappie *Pomoxis nigromaculatus* and White Crappie *P. annularis***

Crappies may be identified by their large rounded dorsal and anal fins, and their deep but narrow bodies giving a “pancake” appearance. Black crappies have seven or eight dorsal spines and dark, irregularly-spaced blotches on the side. White crappies have five or six dorsal spines, and are usually shaded with dark vertical bars. In Washington, black crappies are more plentiful and widely-distributed. Other names used for crappies include “calico bass” and “papermouth.”



black crappie



white crappie

Crappies are the earliest spawners of the centrarchids, actively spawning when water temperatures approach 55° F. Unlike bass, these fish are gregarious, and commonly found in schools during the spring. The schools break up somewhat after spawning, and fish are more likely to be scattered and in deeper water during the summer. Black crappies seem to be more dependent on vegetation, while white crappies do better in more turbid waters. Both species are often found congregated around old pilings, stumps, snags, or near rocks or the mouths of feeder streams.

They will take nearly every kind of lure, from garden hackle to small bass plugs, but small plastic tube jigs and curly-tailed grubs are the most popular and consistent producers here. When the water is cool (below 55° F), try tipping the lure with a bit of bait. Small bass bugs and high-riding hair bugs on a fly rod work well in the spring after the water has warmed. Other good artificials include wet flies and streamers, plus spinners, small spoons, and small poppers.

Crappies will not normally strike a fast-moving target, so moving the lure slowly is a key to success. In shallow water, an effective retrieve can be achieved by hanging a tube jig or curly-tailed grub below a bobber, then adjusting the depth to match that of the fish. Move the bobber very slowly, then strike gently (merely lifting

the rod is usually enough) when the bobber moves sideways or dips. A gentle hook-set is necessary because of the crappies' very thin mouth (hence the nickname "papermouth"). For best landing success, play the fish carefully and use a landing net.

The first crappie plantings in Washington were reportedly in 1890 in Lake Washington (285 yearlings, unknown species); 1891 in Loon Lake (220 adults) and Liberty Lake (50 fish); 1892 in Deer Lake (25 fish); and 1893 in Shepherd Lake. Crappies were well-established in the lower Columbia River before 1910, and many other transplantings probably came from this source. One documented transfer of Columbia River crappies was into Silver Lake, Cowlitz County, in 1912.

Today, the most popular and productive crappie fishing is in the waters of the Columbia Irrigation Project, including Banks Lake, Moses Lake and Potholes Reservoir. Sprague Lake, Silver Lake (Cowlitz County), the Columbia and Snake rivers, and many smaller lakes and ponds around the state are also popular crappie fishing spots. In general, crappie populations in Washington have declined in the last decade or so. In particular, concerns for the species in Moses Lake and Potholes Reservoir have led to harvest restrictions in those two waters.

Special regulations enacted in 2004 are designed to enhance populations in some key crappie waters. Effective May 1, 2004, the following lakes have a daily limit of 10 fish, with a 9-inch minimum size limit: Sprague Lake (Adams County); Lower Goose Lake (Grant Co.); Duck Lake (Grays Harbor Co.); Sawyer Lake (King Co.); Coffeepot Lake (Lincoln Co.); Tanwax Lake (Pierce Co.); Big and Campbell lakes (Skagit Co.); Cassidy and Roesiger lakes (Snohomish Co.); Downs, Eloika and Silver lakes (Spokane Co.); and Black Lake (Thurston County). Potholes Reservoir also has the 9-inch minimum size limit, but with a combined crappie/bluegill daily limit of 25 fish.

Other waters with special crappie regulations (as of May 1, 2004) include Alkali, Coffeepot and Moses lakes. Check the latest regulations pamphlet for more information.

### **Bluegill *Lepomis macrochirus* and Pumpkinseed *L. gibbosus***

These small sunfish are familiar to anyone who has enjoyed fishing warmwater lakes. They are both often called just "sunfish," although technically-speaking this name can be applied to all members of the Centrarchidae family. Bluegills and pumpkinseeds have smaller

mouths than either bass or crappies. They are deep of body like crappies, but fairly thick from side to side.



bluegill



pumpkinseed

These brightly-colored little fish may be told apart most easily by remembering that the bluegill has a blue-black spot on the margin of the gill cover. On the pumpkinseed, that spot is bright orange-red. Subtle differences in coloration are noticeable too; the pumpkinseed is usually lighter and more brilliantly-hued, with turquoise and orange cheek stripes in larger individuals. Males can be distinguished from females, especially during spawning time, by the brighter color of the male bluegill and the larger red spot of the male pumpkinseed.

Both fish characteristically inhabit vegetated, quiet or slow-moving waters. They spawn when water temperatures approach 70° F, congregating in large groups on common spawning grounds in water six to 12 inches deep.

Of the two species, bluegill attain a larger size and are therefore more desirable for sport and at the table. While some specimens over two pounds have been taken in Washington, a one-pounder is considered large. Pumpkinseeds seldom exceed six inches. Both species are of excellent flavor. Smaller fish are often cleaned, skinned or scaled, and fried in one piece. Large bluegill can be filleted, although many still prefer to cook them whole.

Both species are very active feeders, and strong fighters for their size. A bobber and worm is the most common tackle used, but a wide variety of baits, such as crickets and grubs, work well. Small tube jigs and curly-tail plastic jigs are effective as the water warms. In late spring and summer, fly-rodgers have great evening sport with small poppers, wet flies, and imitation ants and bees. The fish may move to deeper water later in the summer as temperatures climb.

Like largemouth, these smaller sunfishes were introduced into the Pacific Northwest in the early 1890s by the U.S. Fish Commission. Records from this period indicate that bluegill were released into Loon, Deer and



Colville (Sprague) lakes in eastern Washington during 1890 and 1891. Sunfish were probably released into the lower Columbia River at about the same time. A common practice then was to salvage warmwater fish and non-game species from overflow channels of several large midwestern rivers. These mixed cargos of fish were then shipped by rail to various west-coast destinations and planted, usually with little documentation as to what species were included.

A few of the better-known bluegill fisheries in Washington are Moses Lake, Potholes Reservoir and Silver Lake (Cowlitz County). Hutchinson and Shiner lakes in Grant County have excellent bluegill populations. In addition, hundreds of smaller lowland lakes and ponds provide fishing opportunities for these sunfish. Construction of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project in central Washington during the 1960s added nearly 100,000 acres of new bluegill habitat.

In the last decade or so, however, bluegill fishing has declined in Potholes Reservoir and Moses Lake. As a consequence, these two bodies of water plus Alkali and Lower Goose lakes in Grant County now have special bluegill regulations to help rebuild populations of this popular panfish. Please see the latest regulations pamphlet for more information on special bluegill rules.

### **Rock Bass *Ambloplites rupestris*, Warmouth *Lepomis gulosus*, and Green Sunfish *L. cyanellus***

Rock bass, warmouth and green sunfish are similar in appearance. None of the three is common in the state. They are stockily built, and from a side view have a body shape somewhat like the bluegill. Their mouths are quite large and strong in comparison to the bluegill and pumpkinseed, though. Both rock bass and warmouth have reddish eyes, especially noticeable in freshly-caught rock bass. To tell them apart, remember that the rock bass has five (or more) spines in its anal fin, while the warmouth and green sunfish have only three. The warmouth has a small band of teeth near the tip of its tongue, and fewer than 45 scales in the lateral line. The green sunfish has no teeth near the tip of the tongue, has more than 45 scales in the lateral line, and has a dark spot at the base of the last three soft dorsal rays.

Rock bass seem to do best in streams and lakes with clear water and rocky bottoms. Their distribution in Washington is probably confined to a few lakes and small tributary streams in Pierce and Thurston Counties, and in slower stretches of the Chehalis River in Lewis County. They were apparently first stocked into the

lower Columbia and Willamette rivers around 1893. Their origin in Washington lakes is uncertain.

*Please note that bass slot limits DO NOT apply to rock bass.*

Warmouth generally prefer clear lakes with abundant aquatic vegetation. They may also occur in turbid waters with little or no vegetation. They are currently found in Silver Lake in Cowlitz County, plus a dozen or so other smaller lakes in Cowlitz, Lewis and Thurston counties. The first known stocking in the Evergreen State was into Loon Lake in Stevens County in 1892. During this same period, separate releases were made in the Boise River (Idaho) and with mixed plantings in the Willamette River.

Green sunfish inhabit slow-moving streams and weed beds in warm-water lakes. They can withstand a wide range of water temperatures and low levels of dissolved oxygen, surviving for several days even in water warmer than 90° F. They also tolerate cold waters well. Green sunfish are not very popular as sport fish in Washington, rarely exceeding six or seven inches. Current distribution is limited to a few Washington lakes. They were first introduced into Washington by the U.S. Fish Commission with mixed sunfish releases into Loon Lake, Deer Lake and Colville (Sprague) Lake in the early 1890s.

All three of these species are aggressive, sometimes striking lures almost as large as they are. Most common baits, plus a wide variety of artificial lures, will take them. Because of their robust build, they are strong fighters on light tackle.



rock bass



warmouth



green sunfish



## THE PERCH FAMILY: PERCIDAE

This family boasts only two representatives in Washington, yellow perch and walleye. On a numerical basis, though, they probably contribute more to the annual catch than all other warmwater species. Perch are one of the most widespread, numerous and popular species in the state. Walleyes are relative newcomers to Washington, but have attracted anglers from across the nation in the last decade or so.

### Yellow Perch *Perca flavescens*

The yellow perch is easy to identify. Its round body is slender compared to the sunfishes, yellow or greenish in color, with six to eight dark vertical bars on the sides. The two relatively large dorsal fins are completely separated, and the anal fin has one or two spines.



Yellow perch spawn even earlier than crappies, beginning when water temperatures reach 45 or 50° F. Spawning is extended over only a short period, each female extruding all of her eggs at once. Reproductive potential (fecundity) is high, with as many as 15,000 eggs for a six-inch fish, and many times that for larger fish. Consequently, perch provide a great deal of forage for other species. If not heavily preyed upon, their numbers can quickly overwhelm the food supply in a lake, resulting in stunted populations. On occasion their numbers are quickly reduced by disease mortality, evidently the result of a pathogen peculiar to the species.

Yellow perch, together with their cousins the walleye, are often considered the best-eating freshwater fish. The white meat is very firm and mild-flavored. Their rather lethargic fight is offset by their fine eating quality. Ease of catch and plentiful numbers make this a very popular fish, especially ideal for youngsters. The most common producer is undoubtedly angleworms, with or without a bobber. Perch also eagerly attack small flies, jigs, spoons and spinners.

The first recorded introductions of yellow perch into Washington were again by the U.S. Fish Commission. Between 1890 and 1895 perch were released into Loon and Colville (Sprague) lakes near Spokane, the Palouse River, Silver Lake in Cowlitz County, and Lake St. Clair

in Thurston County. They were also probably introduced into the lower Columbia River during this period, included in shipments of warmwater fish species salvaged from receding overflow channels of midwestern rivers.

A list of the better-known and most productive perch fisheries today would include Banks Lake, Moses Lake, Potholes Reservoir, Lake Washington, Lake Sammamish, Lake Stevens, Silver Lake in Cowlitz County, and the Columbia River. Hundreds of smaller lakes and ponds provide abundant fishing for this species throughout the state.

Currently (as of May 1, 2004), only Banks Lake and Potholes Reservoir have special yellow perch regulations. In both of these bodies of water, perch are not only popular gamefish, but also an important forage species. For more information on special rules, please see the latest regulations pamphlet.

### Walleye *Stizostedion vitreum vitreum*

Body shape of the walleye is similar to its smaller cousin, the yellow perch. There can be no mistaking the two, though. In addition to its larger size, the walleye lacks the dark vertical bars of the perch. Coloration is variable, but generally a dark olive green on the top and sides, blending into a lighter, sometimes pinkish, sometimes white, belly. The sides, particularly above the lateral line, show an irregular pattern of small, dark blotches. One of the first identification marks when landing a walleye is the white tip on the lower lobe of the tail. And the eyes have an almost opaque, “moonish” look.



Sometimes erroneously called “walleyed pike,” the walleye is not a close relative of the pike, which is a member of the Esocidae family discussed later. Part of the reason for this misnomer may be the walleye’s wicked set of teeth, somewhat similar to a pike’s dentition. Care must be taken in landing and unhooking walleye, or a bloody hand may result. A landing net is commonly used.

Like the yellow perch, walleyes begin spawning when water temperatures reach 45° F. Also like the perch, fecundity is high, with as many as 50,000 eggs produced per pound of body weight.

The origin of Washington's walleyes is uncertain. The two most prevalent theories are: they were introduced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during the 1950s when Walleye fry from Lake Oneida (New York) were released into Lake Roosevelt; or, they were planted into Devil's Lake (near Steamboat Rock) in the 1930's, and were released into Banks lake and the Columbia River system when Devil's Lake was inundated by the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project.

While there continues to be uncertainty about Washington's first walleye, there is no doubt that they have become widely dispersed throughout the Columbia River Basin, including all the major reservoirs of the Columbia Basin Irrigation Project. In an effort to provide more recreational angling, walleyes have also been introduced by the former Department of Wildlife into Sprague Lake and Liberty Lake (Spokane County). Today, the most notable walleye fisheries are found in Columbia River reservoirs from Lake Roosevelt to Bonneville Pool, and in Banks Lake, Moses Lake, Potholes Reservoir, Soda Lake and Sprague Lake, all in eastern Washington.

Walleyes are ravenous feeders. Because their large eyes are adapted to finding prey in low light, they are not often found near the surface except at night or in turbid water. Most serious walleye fishing in Washington is done in 15-25 feet of water. Experienced anglers look for humps, drop-offs, and other bottom variations collectively referred to as "structure." Popular tackle includes plastic grubs and jigs, commonly tipped with a nightcrawler, spinner and worm combinations, and large plugs that are trolled to cover the most territory and get to the necessary depth.

For more information about walleyes, including where, when and how to catch them, please request a copy of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife fact sheet "Walleyes in Washington," report FM95-5.

As of May 1, 2004, special walleye regulations are in effect for Moses and Roosevelt lakes, plus the Columbia, Colville, Snake and Spokane rivers. Refer to the latest regulations pamphlet for standard statewide rules and details of special regulations.

## THE CATFISH FAMILY: ICTALURIDAE

Whenever a homely, dark or slate-colored fish with several "whiskers" or barbels dangling from its head appears in a freshwater angler's catch, it is surely one of the catfish species. The eight fleshy barbels, smooth scaleless body, fleshy adipose fin and strong, sharp spines in the pectoral and dorsal fins identify this family.

Catfish spawn in secluded areas such as undercut banks, in old buckets, tires, or depressions they scoop out of a soft bottom. After spawning, the male drives his mate away from the nest and guards the eggs until they hatch, after which he stays with the young for a while, guarding them as they wander about in thick schools.

### **Brown Bullhead *Ameiurus nebulosus***

The brown bullhead is by far the most common of our catfish. It can be identified by the presence of strong barbs or serrations on the back edge of its pectoral spines, and pigmentation in the chin barbels. Like other members of the catfish family, brown bullheads are often abundant in water a little muddier and warmer than most other fish prefer. They can tolerate high water temperatures and low dissolved oxygen levels that would be lethal to most other game fish. Having a highly-developed sense of smell and touch, bullheads are well equipped to negotiate murky waters and find food.



Female bullheads will lay from 2,000 to over 10,000 eggs, depending on size. Spawning usually occurs when water temperature reaches about 70° F. Brown bullheads may completely take over a lake in just a few seasons in areas where there is little competition. For this reason, many lakes have large numbers of bullheads too small to attract anglers, and too abundant to allow themselves enough food for further growth.

Like other catfish, bullheads are omnivorous, eating almost anything that is available. Almost all food is taken on or near the bottom. Their excellent olfactory sense makes baits with a strong odor particularly effective. Popular baits include worms, chicken, beef, or

any kind of liver. Serious catfish anglers often have their own secret bait concoctions, the smellier the better. A rod or cane pole, line, bobber and bait are usually all the tackle required.

Bullheads also make excellent table fare; many anglers consider catfish taken from cool, clean water to be the ultimate in piscatorial cuisine. The fish are normally skinned, at which a little practice is required to become proficient. Any brown bullhead over 12 inches is a good-sized one, so expect to work for a family meal.

Brown bullheads were first planted in Silver Lake, Cowlitz County, in the early 1880s. In *Coming of the Pond Fishes*, Ben Hur Lampman theorizes that this planting provided the nursery that fueled a catfish population explosion in the lower Columbia and Willamette Rivers. (Silver Lake drains to the Toutle River, which drains to the Cowlitz, which drains to the Columbia.) In April 1890, the *Oregonian* newspaper reported “The ponds and lakes of Sauvie Island are literally alive with catfish which have been carried in by the late flood waters. By every appearance our waters will soon be swarming with these fish, as they increase at an appalling rate.”

During the 1890s and up until Oregon declared the catfish a game species, about 1913, there was a thriving commercial fishery for them, mostly in the shallow lakes of Sauvie Island (as it’s more commonly known now). Sauvie Island is about 10 miles downstream from Portland, surrounded by the Columbia and Willamette Rivers and Multnomah Channel. This fishery produced over 100,000 pounds of dressed catfish annually at its peak.

Today, brown bullheads are abundant in many of Washington’s lowland lakes, ponds and reservoirs, on both sides of the Cascades. Among other places, popular fisheries exist in Moses Lake, Lake Terrell, Liberty Lake, Lake Washington, and Cowlitz County’s Silver Lake. The lower Columbia River still has its share, especially in slough areas, and so may other slow-moving streams.

### **Yellow Bullhead *Ameiurus natalis* and Black Bullhead *A. melas***

The yellow bullhead is not common in Washington, occurring mostly in the lower reaches of a few eastside streams. It can be distinguished from brown and black bullheads by the almost clear, or unpigmented, chin barbels. The yellow also has more rays in the anal fin, usually 25 or 26, compared with 16-23 in the brown and black.



yellow bullhead

Yellow bullheads prefer clearer water than the other bullheads. Otherwise, the diets, preferred baits and fishing techniques are similar. Like the brown bullhead, they have a good flavor and are usually welcomed at the dinner table. Size is similar to the brown bullhead, but yellows may grow a bit faster.

The first introduction of yellow bullheads in Washington was probably in 1905 in the lower Columbia River, when display fish were released following the Lewis and Clark 100-year exposition in Portland. They are reportedly common in the Willamette Valley of Oregon.



black bullhead

Black bullheads are uncommon in Washington, only known to exist in a few lakes. They are hard to distinguish from brown bullheads, external differences being limited mainly to the darkness of the chin barbels and lack of barbs on the pectoral spines.



### Channel Catfish *Ictalurus punctatus*

This catfish is distinctly different from the bullheads. It has a forked, rather than rounded, tail, a slate to silvery body color—usually spotted with tiny black specks—and a much more streamlined head and body. Channel cats also attain a much larger size, growing to over 30 pounds.



Channel catfish also differ from the bullheads in habit and habitat. They spawn only in lakes, rivers and streams that can reach a temperature of 75° F by late spring. Currently, naturally-reproducing populations are found only in the Snake, Columbia, lower Yakima (50 miles) and Walla Walla rivers.

Channel cats have been stocked in a number of Washington lakes in the last decade by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. These non-reproducing populations were introduced in an attempt to increase predation on over-abundant forage fish populations, and to add diversity to mixed-species fisheries. These efforts have been highly successful in several lakes. Of the dozen or so lakes planted since 1982, Fazon Lake, Sprague Lake, McCabe Pond, Swofford Pond, Gissburg ponds, Harts Lake and Kress Lake have produced the most significant fisheries so far.

Adult channel cats are known to forage on an incredible variety of food organisms, including frogs, crawfish, clams, snails, worms, pond weeds, seeds, snakes and birds, in addition to the more traditional forage of fish and insects. As with the other catfish, feeding activity is generally greatest at night, but this species seems to rely more on sight than the bullheads. It is not unheard of for bass anglers to catch them on diving plugs, spinners, plastic lures, and even surface lures. Most anglers fish for them with bait, though, and like other catfish, the smellier the better.

The first reported introduction of channel catfish into Washington waters was in 1892 when 75 fish went into Clear Lake, Skagit County. That same year 125 were stocked into a privately-owned, unnamed farm pond near Vancouver, and 50 were liberated in Deer Lake, Spokane County. In 1893 the Boise River in Idaho (a Snake River tributary) received 100 adult or yearling channel cats, and a few were released in the Willamette

River in Oregon. Additional releases were made in various lakes and streams across the state in the ensuing years, as all forms of catfish (mainly bullheads) became abundant and popular in the region with both sport and commercial anglers.

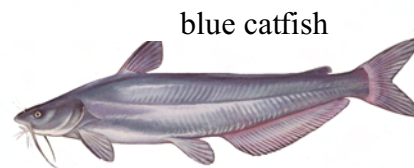
Special channel catfish regulations are in effect (as of May 1, 2004) in Fazon Lake, Gissburg ponds, plus the Columbia, Snake and Yakima rivers. Refer to the latest regulations pamphlet for standard statewide rules and details of special regulations.

### Other Catfish

Flathead catfish *Pylodictis olivaris* have been present in Washington waters since at least the mid-1970s. They were probably introduced into the Columbia River much earlier, however, as part of indiscriminate catfish releases made before the turn of the century. Early releases of warmwater fish species, shipped to the region following salvage operations from overflow channels of large midwestern rivers, often included a variety of unidentified species, and flathead catfish are common in most large midwestern rivers. Today, they are found in limited numbers along the upper reaches of the Washington portion of the Snake River, and in the lower Yakima River.



flathead catfish



blue catfish

Blue catfish *Ictalurus furcatus* are rarely found in Washington, and are only known to inhabit the waters of the mid-Columbia and Snake rivers. While the origin of Washington's first introduction is unknown, they most likely were a part of the salvage shipments described above.



## THE PIKE FAMILY: ESOCIDAE

This family includes pike, muskellunge and pickerels. All have distinctive body shapes: long, slender and rounded, with a forked tail, and dorsal and anal fins set far back on the body. The head is large, with the snout flattened and a mouth full of large, sharp canine teeth. Two Washington species attain large size and are sought by anglers. The third species present here generates little or no angling interest.

### Tiger Musky (Muskellunge)

The tiger musky is a sterile cross between northern pike *Esox lucius* and muskellunge *Esox masquinongy*. Neither of the parent species is native to Washington.



Tiger muskies were first introduced into Mayfield Lake (Lewis County) in 1988 to help control populations of rough fish, mainly northern pikeminnow and largescale sucker, and to provide recreation. Newman Lake (Spokane County) was stocked in 1992, and Merwin Reservoir (Cowlitz and Clark counties) in 1995. In all cases, tiger musky eggs were obtained from Minnesota, hatched and reared at Cowlitz and Mossyrock hatcheries, then stocked as 12- to 14-inch juveniles. Mayfield Lake has received plants ranging from over 7,000 fish in 1988 to 200 fish in 1994. As a result, tiger muskies are now well-established in this 2,200 acre Cowlitz River reservoir. Since this hybrid is incapable of natural production, their long-term presence depends on continued hatchery supplementation and voluntary release by anglers.

Columbia Basin Hatchery in Moses Lake is currently raising tiger muskies for release in eastern Washington. In 1997, the musky program was expanded to include Evergreen Reservoir (Grant County). 1998 saw introductions in Curlew Lake (Ferry County). Seattle's Green Lake was added in 2000, and Silver Lake (Spokane County) in 2002.

Adult tiger muskies are voracious predators, with fish being the dominant item in their diet. They typically inhabit shallow weedy bays during the warm months, so their prey is most often rough fish and warmwater species that also frequent the shallower, weedier areas.

In Mayfield Lake, northern pikeminnows seem to be the preferred prey, followed by largescale suckers. Large lures such as bucktail spinners, spinnerbaits, and wooden or plastic plugs are used to catch them.

Tiger muskies grow rapidly. The largest tigers in Mayfield Lake are now over 30 pounds. A fish this big and strong, with their fearsome teeth, does not come easily or quickly to the boat. Sturdy outfits are needed, and a short length of wire leader enhances the chances of landing one. Success rates are low. Anglers can typically expect to fish several days during the warmer months of the year for a single strike, although several "follows" may be experienced daily.

### Northern Pike *Esox lucius* and Grass Pickerel *E. americanus vermiculatus*

Northern pike have probably been present in Washington waters for only two or three decades. The first confirmed reports of pike came from Long Lake in the early 1970s. Long Lake is a reservoir located on the lower Spokane River, near the city of Spokane. The few individual fish reported are believed to be strays from Idaho populations. There is no indication that this species is expanding in numbers or distribution.



northern pike

Like tiger muskies, northern pike are savage predators. Where available, they can be caught on a similar range of lures.

Grass pickerel are small, seldom reaching a foot in length. Recent WDFW sampling in Cow and Finner lakes and the connecting streams that drain into the Palouse River confirm their presence there. Because of their small size and limited distribution, they are of no sportfishing significance.

(grass pickerel not illustrated)

## COMMON CARP: *Cyprinus carpio*

As mentioned earlier, carp were the first non-native fish to be introduced to the Pacific Northwest, arriving in 1880. Although they have not gained widespread acceptance here, they are highly sought in their native Europe. They are strong, determined fighters, and can be good table fare when properly prepared.

Carp are members of the Cyprinidae family, which also includes native species such as dace, reidside shiner, peamouth and northern pikeminnow. Non-native goldfish and grass carp are other close relatives. Note that grass carp are protected throughout the state, so anglers should know the difference.

A fishing license is not required to fish for common carp in Washington. In addition, there are no catch or size limits. For more information on how to catch carp and how to distinguish common carp from grass carp, request a copy of the brochure "Carp Fishing in Washington" from the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## THE WARMWATER ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

During its 1996 regular session, the Washington State Legislature unanimously passed Fourth Senate Substitute Bill 5159. This legislation, requested by various warmwater fishing organizations within the state, established a Warmwater Gamefish Enhancement Program within the WDFW, with the stated broad goal of increasing "opportunities to fish for and catch warmwater game fish." The bill authorized WDFW to fund the program through a \$5 license surcharge to fish for black bass (largemouth and smallmouth), walleye, channel catfish, tiger musky and crappie. The warmwater enhancement surcharge was eliminated in 1999, and funding for this program now comes from the basic freshwater and combination license fees.

The Warmwater Enhancement Program includes some specific goals:

- Identify 80 - 100 waters with significant warmwater enhancement potential that:
  - are geographically distributed to benefit all warmwater anglers
  - include mixed species management waters
  - avoid ESA and wild salmonid conflicts

- Management objectives for each water include one or more of the following:
  - panfish management
  - bass management
  - walleye management
  - quality fishing
  - juvenile/urban angling
- Specific projects for each water include one or more of the following:
  - access development
  - harvest regulation
  - habitat improvement
  - stock assessment
  - stocking
  - promote fishing opportunity
  - enforcement

As an example of warmwater enhancement activities, Table 2 shows warmwater fish production at the Columbia Basin (Moses Lake) and Meseberg (Ringold) facilities, and Table 3 shows where stocking has occurred since 1996.

**Table 2:**  
**Warmwater Fish Production since 1996**

Species	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
bluegill	0	11,148	22,954	115,940	56,523	324	0
bass, largemouth	0	120,173	3,995	168	1,726	6,625	0
bass, smallmouth	0	322	8,996	0	0	0	0
catfish, channel	12,350	75,155	45,672	38,761	25,343	19,747	6,400
crappie, black	0	12,484	41,625	92,140	4,078	131,150	6,466
crappie, white	0	853	0	0	0	0	0
saugeye	0	0	0	0	2,275	650,573	0
tiger musky	0	5,503	3,081	1,980	6,087	0	4,329
walleye	267,226	664,319	292,196	510,223	0	0	306,250
Totals	279,576	889,957	418,519	759,212	96,032	967,635	323,446

**Table 3:  
Warmwater Fish Stocked since 1996**

SPECIES	LAKE/RESERVOIR (COUNTY)
Bluegill	Alkali Lake (Grant) Lower Goose Lake (Grant) Columbia Park Lagoon (Benton) I-82 ponds (Yakima) Rotary Lake (Yakima) Hutchinson/Shiner lakes (Adams)
Bass, largemouth	Alkali Lake (Grant) Banks Lake (Grant) Columbia Park Lagoon (Benton) Hutchinson/Shiner lakes (Adams) I-82 ponds (Yakima) Kahlotus Lake (Franklin) Lower Goose Lake (Grant) Rotary Lake (Yakima) Royal Lake (Adams) Stan Coffin Lake (Grant)
Bass, smallmouth	Alkali Lake (Grant) American Lake (Pierce) Columbia Park Lagoon (Benton) Redrock Lake (Grant) Rufus Woods Lake (Douglas/Okanogan)
Catfish, channel	Campbell Lake (Skagit) Columbia Park Lagoon (Benton) Cow Lake (Adams) Ephrata Park Pond (Grant) Fazon Lake (Whatcom) Frenchman Hills Lake (Grant) Gissberg ponds (Snohomish) Green Lake (King) Harts Lake (Pierce) Hummel Lake (San Juan) I-82 ponds (Yakima) Kress Lake (Cowlitz) Lower Goose Lake (Grant) McCabe Pond (Kittitas) Potholes Reservoir (Grant) Rock Island ponds #2 & #4 (Douglas) Roses Lake (Chelan) Rotary Lake (Yakima) Scooteney Reservoir (Franklin) Sprague Lake (Adams/Lincoln) Stan Coffin Lake (Grant) Swofford Pond (Lewis) Terrell Lake (Whatcom) Washburn Island Pond (Okanogan) Wenas Lake (Yakima) Whitestone Lake (Okanogan) Winchester Lake (Grant)

Crappie, black	Cassidy Lake (Snohomish) Gissberg ponds (Snohomish) Hutchinson/Shiner lakes (Adams) I-82 ponds (Yakima) Kahlotus Lake (Franklin) Moses Lake (Grant) Palmer Lake (Okanogan) Rock Island ponds (Douglas) Roses Lake (Chelan) Sawyer, Lake (King) Stan Coffin Lake (Grant) Washburn Island Pond (Okanogan)
Crappie, white	Moses Lake (Grant)
Saugeye	Liberty Lake (Spokane)
Tiger Musky	Curlew Lake (Ferry) Evergreen Reservoir (Grant) Fazon Lake (Whatcom) Green Lake (King) Mayfield Lake (Lewis) Merwin Reservoir (Clark/Cowlitz) Newman Lake (Spokane) Silver Lake (Spokane) Tapps Reservoir (Pierce)
Walleye	Banks Lake (Grant) Billy Clapp Lake (Grant) I-82 ponds (Yakima) Liberty Lake (Spokane) Moses Lake (Grant) Potholes Reservoir (Grant)

## UNAUTHORIZED FISH INTRODUCTIONS

As used here, an “unauthorized” introduction is defined as any planting of fish not performed by or authorized by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Most of these introductions involve “non-native” species (fish from other North American waters that did not naturally occur in Washington state) or “exotic” species (fish not native to this continent). Many of these fish have been with us for over 100 years, and we tend to think of them as belonging here. There is little doubt that they have increased sportfishing opportunities in Washington. And in some cases, such as with the tiger muskies, they perform a useful role as predators on less desirable fish. Asian grass carp are another example of a potentially valuable introduced species, as they help control the spread of non-native and exotic vegetation.

Other true exotics, such as common carp, are quite obviously not as beneficial, although even they have their supporters. And as popular as some non-native species are, they can create a lot of problems, both for native species and for fish managers. This is especially true when they are illegally planted in lakes that are being managed for other fisheries.

### Rehabilitation

Lakes vary in fertility, and fertility governs how many pounds of fish they can produce. Mixed-species lakes with a proper balance of predators and prey, and “coldwater” trout-only lakes offer the best fishing. Lakes where the balance is tipped in favor of less-desirable species soon lose their ability to sustain a high-quality fishing experience.

The most popular form of fishing in Washington state is lowland lake trout fishing. And the best trout fishing, and best return on our hard-earned fishing dollar, comes from lakes that are managed for fry-planted trout. Planting small trout (about 100 fish per pound) yields returns to the angler as high as 80% in some lakes, with a cost of less than 10 cents per fish to the creel. In contrast, planting catchable-size trout

costs 10 to 20 times as much per fish to the creel, with a return rate of about 60%.

The introduction of pumpkinseed sunfish in the wrong place provides a good example of how an undesirable species can cause extensive damage to a popular fishery. The pumpkinseeds are generally too small to provide much sport or food value. They reproduce at an incredible rate, out-compete the trout for food and space, and eat small trout fry. The end result is a lake filled with lots of stunted sunfish, and with minimal fishing value. The same negative result can occur with other unauthorized introductions.

To return lakes to a high-quality, productive fishery, the WDFW uses a fish management tool known as “lake rehabilitation.” In simple terms, a rehabilitated lake is one where the existing fish populations are eliminated, and a more desirable population or mix is introduced. Rehabilitation usually involves spreading rotenone, an extract of a South American root, throughout the lake.

In the early years of this procedure, lake rehabilitation efforts were aimed solely at maintaining quality trout waters. But in recent years, the tastes of the fishing public have turned toward warmwater species in addition to trout. So now the department uses rotenone as a tool to improve warmwater and mixed-species fisheries as well.

Contrary to popular opinion, rotenone does not “poison” the fish; it

### DESIRABLE VERSUS UNDESIRABLE FISH

What do fish biologists mean when they say a fish species is “desirable” or “undesirable?” Just as our taste in clothing, food and sport change over time, so does the definition of desirable fish species. Generally, an undesirable species is one that is unwanted, like a weed, and therefore unused; or more often, a species that makes it difficult or impossible to produce and manage a healthy population of more desirable fish.

Common carp and northern pikeminnows are two examples of fish species that are almost always considered undesirable in Washington. (Even though the pikeminnow is a native species, man-made changes to the environment have allowed some populations to expand to undesirable levels.) Other species usually thought of as undesirable include chubs, tench, and excessive populations of shiners, sticklebacks, dace and roach.

Under certain circumstances, any fish could be undesirable; for example, an overabundance of stunted brook trout or four-to-five inch adult crappies, or even an adult population of bass that fails to grow to a size that attracts anglers.



merely restricts their ability to remove oxygen from the water, and effectively suffocates them. In the quantity and manner used, rotenone has no adverse effects on humans, birds, or any other animals without gills. And treated fish can be saved. If department personnel and volunteers can collect the fish and place them in an antidotal solution in time, they can be revived and transferred to a designated “mixed-species” or warmwater lake.

Rotenone has no long-term harmful effects on plants or nearby ecosystems, and it breaks down quickly. It usually dissipates within 30-60 days, so lakes can be replanted with fish in a short time.

This chemical does have some drawbacks. Different species of fish have differing tolerances to it, as do different individuals of the same species. Putting rotenone into a lake does not always result in the total removal of fish. In lakes with large amounts of organic matter, deep-water springs, marshes, dense weed beds, and inlet and outlet streams, total removal is more difficult to achieve. And fish that are able to survive on low amounts of oxygen, such as common carp, bullheads and some sunfish, are harder to control with rotenone.

On the average, rehabilitated lakes may need to be retreated with rotenone every eight years to maintain high productivity. Incomplete removal and the *illegal reintroduction of undesirable fish* are the main reasons necessitating continued rehabilitation. **Every dollar the department has to spend combating illegal introductions means less to spend on other types of fisheries enhancement!**

## The Law

The laws regarding taking, possessing and releasing fish and wildlife in Washington State are summarized in the respective fishing and hunting regulation pamphlets. For more in-depth reading of these laws, anglers and hunters can refer to several **RCWs** (Revised Code of Washington; laws passed by the legislature and signed into law by the governor) and **WACs** (Washington Administrative Code; administrative regulations adopted by either the Fish and Wildlife Commission or the Director of the Department of Fish and Wildlife, consistent with the authority delegated to them via the RCW).

**RCW 77.16.150** addresses releasing wildlife (including fish) and planting aquatic plants and seeds. **WAC 220-12-090** defines aquatic nuisance species. **WAC 232.12.017** defines deleterious exotic wildlife.

**WAC 232.12.064** concerns taking from the wild, importation, possession, transfer, and holding in captivity live wildlife. **WAC 232.12.271** provides criteria for planting aquatic plants and releasing wildlife.

## LOCATION TABLES

Appendix A lists all known bodies of water in Washington containing warmwater species, arranged alphabetically by county. Included are size (acres), depth (feet), fish species present, and access information.

Size and depth data are taken from *Lakes of Washington*, Volume 1 (Western Washington) and Volume 2 (Eastern Washington), Third and Second editions, respectively, by Ernest Wolcott.

Where it is known, the type of access available is listed: fishing pier, improved ramp, primitive ramp, shoreline, or private access (resorts, etc.). Please respect private property and do not trespass.

Readers are invited to send their comments on this publication to:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Attention: Angler Education Program  
600 Capitol Way North, M/S 43200  
Olympia WA 98501-1091

**SPECIES KEY:** BBH = brown bullhead; BC = black crappie; BG = bluegill; BLB = black bullhead; CC = channel catfish; GP = grass pickerel; GS = green sunfish; LMB = largemouth bass; NP = northern pike; PS = pumpkinseed; RKB = rock bass; SMB = smallmouth bass; TM = tiger musky; WAL = walleye; WC = white crappie; WM = warmouth; YBH = yellow bullhead; YP = yellow perch

**ACCESS KEY:** FP = fishing pier; IR = improved (hard surface) ramp; PR = primitive ramp; S = shoreline; PA = private access (resorts, etc.)

Water Body Name	Acres	Depth	Fish Species Present												Access
ADAMS COUNTY															
Black lakes	38.4	25'	BC	BG	LMB	YP									
Bobcat Creek ponds	?	?	BG	LMB											
Butte lakes	30	25'	BC	BG	LMB	YP									
Cow Lake	226	11'	BBH	BG	CC	GP	LMB	WAL							S
Deadman Lake	12.4	?	BG	LMB											
Finnel Lake	30.9	?	BBH	BG	GP	LMB									
Green Lake	4.5	21'	LMB												
Hallin Lake	33.3	?	BBH	BG	LMB										
Hutchinson Lake	49.6	14'	BC	BG	LMB	YP									
Linda Lake	99.2	?	BBH	BG	LMB	PS	YP								S
Royal Lake	102	?	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	YP								
Shiner Lake	33.5	26'	BC	BG	LMB	YP									
Sprague Lake	1,841	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	SMB	WAL	YP						IR,S
Thread Lake	29.4	?	BG	YP											S
ASOTIN COUNTY															
Grand Ronde River, lower	---	---	CC	SMB											IR,S
Snake River reservoirs	---	---	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WC	YP						IR,S
BENTON COUNTY															
Columbia Park Pond (juveniles only)	7.0	12'	BG	CC	LMB	SMB									FP,S
Columbia River reservoirs	52,000	145'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	WC	YP			IR,S
Mitchell Pond	3.7	15'	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	YP								
Mound Pond	34.8	30'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP				
Palmer Pond	4.9	25'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP				
Switch Pond	6.7	20'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP				
Yakima River, mouth to Prosser	47.1 river miles		BBH	CC	SMB										PR,S
Yellepit Pond	36	25'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	YP						
CHELAN COUNTY															
Antilon Lake	96	57'	BC	BG	LMB	PS									IR
Chelan, Lake	33,104	1,605'	SMB												IR
Columbia River reservoirs	9,860	---	BBH	BC	CC	LMB	SMB	WAL	YP						IR,S
Dry (Grass) Lake	76.8	11'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	YP							
Fish Lake	513	135'	LMB	SMB	YP										
Meadow Lake	35.7	15'	BC	LMB											
Roses Lake	179	31'	BC	CC	LMB	PS									IR,S
Three Lakes Reservoir	33	28'	BBH	BC	LMB	YP									
Wapato Lake	186	68'	BC	BG	LMB	PS									S
CLALLAM COUNTY															
Beaver Lake	36.3	33'	YP												
Ozette Lake	7,787	331'	LMB	YP											(access via Olympic Nat'l Park)
CLARK COUNTY															
Battleground Lake	28	60'	LMB												IR,S
Campbell Lake	247	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	WC	YP					
Canvasback Lake	167	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	WC	YP					
Carty Lake	42	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	WC	YP					
Columbia River	---	---	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WAL	WC	YP				IR,S
Curtis Lake	25	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	WC	YP					
Green Lake	127	?	BBH	BC	BF	CC	LMB	PS	WC	YP					
Hathaway Lake	54	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	WC	YP					
Lacamas Lake	315	65'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	YP							IR,S,PA
Lancaster Lake	97	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	PS	WC	YP						
Long Lake	12	?	BBH	BC	LMB	WC	YP								
Merwin Reservoir	4,090	190'	TM												IR,S
Mud Lake	92	10'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS								
Post Office Lake	77	?	BBH	BG	YBH	YP									
Round (west side of Lake River) Lake	16	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	YP						
Round (conn. to Lacamas Lake) Lake	32.4	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	YP							
Vancouver Lake	2,858	?	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	WC	YBH	YP				S
Widgeon Lake	38	?	BBH	LMB	YP										

**SPECIES KEY:** BBH = brown bullhead; BC = black crappie; BG = bluegill; BLB = black bullhead; CC = channel catfish; GP = grass pickerel; GS = green sunfish; LMB = largemouth bass; NP = northern pike; PS = pumpkinseed; RKB = rock bass; SMB = smallmouth bass; TM = tiger musky; WAL = walleye; WC = white crappie; WM = warmouth; YBH = yellow bullhead; YP = yellow perch

**ACCESS KEY:** FP = fishing pier; IR = improved (hard surface) ramp; PR = primitive ramp; S = shoreline; PA = private access (resorts, etc.)

Water Body Name	Acres	Depth	Fish Species Present										Access
COLUMBIA COUNTY													
Snake River reservoirs	10,025	---	BG	BC	CC	LMB	SMB	WC	YP				IR,S
COWLITZ COUNTY													
Columbia River	---	---	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	WC	YP		IR,S
Horseshoe Lake	78.9	16'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	YBH	YP					IR,S
Kress Lake	26	17'	BBH	BG	CC	LMB	PS						IR,S
Merwin Reservoir (see Clark County)													
Sacajawea Lake	47.7	21'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	WM	YBH	YP			S
Silver Lake	1,650	10'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	WC	WM	YBH	YP		IR,S,PA
DOUGLAS COUNTY													
Columbia River reservoirs	4,930	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP			IR,S
Rock Island ponds	187	?	BC	BG	CC	LMB							S
FERRY COUNTY													
Curlew Lake (incl. Roberta Lake)	867	130'	LMB	SMB	TM								IR,S
Roosevelt, Lake (see Stevens County)													
Swan Lake	52	95'	LMB										S
FRANKLIN COUNTY													
Clark Pond	49	10'	BC	LMB	YP								
Columbia River reservoirs	---	---	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WAL	WC	YP		IR,S
Cox's Pond (Cox Lake)	50	68'	BC	LMB	PS	WAL	YP						S
Dalton Lake	30	18'	BBH	BC	LMB	SMB	YP						
Emma Lake	20	30'	BBH	BC	LMB	SMB	YP						
Mesa Lake	50	12'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	WAL	YBH	YP			S
Powerline (Barker) Lake	22	55'	BBH	BC	LMB	YP							S
Scooteney Lake	685	31'	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YBH	YP		IR,S
Snake River reservoirs	---	---	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WAL	WC	YP			IR,S
Thompson Seeps Lake	30	18	BG	CC	LMB	SMB							PR,S
Worth Lake	10	20'	LMB	YP									S
GARFIELD COUNTY													
Snake River reservoirs	---	---	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WC	YP				IR,S
GRANT COUNTY													
Alkali Lake	293	14'	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP				S
Ancient Lake	250	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	WAL	YP					PR
Banks Lake	24,900	85'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YBH	YP		IR,S
Billy Clapp Lake	1,010	110'	LMB	SMB	PS	WAL	YP						IR
Brook (Stratford) Lake	428	?	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	YP					
Columbia River reservoirs	---	---	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP				IR,S
Crater Lake	25	35'	BBH	BC	PS	YP							PR
Crescent Lake	39.6	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP			
Crescent Bay Lake	66.9	142'	BC	YP									
Evergreen Reservoir (Lake)	235	54'	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	TM	WAL	YP			IR,PR,S
Flat Lake	98.2	?	LMB										
Frenchman Hills Lake	800	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	YP				PR,S
Goose Lake, Lower	65	77'	BC	BG	LMB	PS	WAL	YP					IR
Goose Lake, Upper	130	46'	BBH	BG	LMB	PS	WAL						S
"H" Lake	7.2	17'	BG	LMB									PR
Long Lake	74.8	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP			IR
Mallard Lake	8.0	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	YP				
Moses Lake	6,815	38'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP			IR,PR,S
Potholes Reservoir (Lake)	28,200	142'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YBH	YP	IR,PR,S
Redrock Lake	154	36'	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	YP						PR
Roosevelt, Lake (see Stevens County)													
Sand Lake	28.4	?	BG	LMB									
Soda Lake	155	138'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP			S
Stan Coffin Lake	40.9	20'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	YP					
Thompson Lake	13.6	?	BC	LMB	YP								
Trail Lake	6.0	?	BC	WAL	YP								
Williams Lake	11.9	16'	BG	LMB									
Willow Lake	23.3	?	BBH	BC	PS	YP							
Willow Lake, South	39.4	?	BBH	BC	PS	YP							
Winchester Wasteway	660	12'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	YP					PR,S

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Water Body Name	Acres	Depth	Fish Species Present	Access
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## GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY

Chehalis River potholes	---	---	LMB YP	
Duck Lake	197	10'	BC BG LMB	IR,S
Sylvia Lake	31	45'	80 LMB	PR,S
Vance Creek ponds (#1 juveniles only)	9.0	?	20 LMB	S

## ISLAND COUNTY

Cranberry Lake	128	25'	BBH LMB YP	FP,IR,S
Deer Lake	82.1	50'	BBH	S
Pondilla Lake	3.7	?	LMB YP	

## JEFFERSON COUNTY

Gibbs Lake	36.8	47'	BBH LMB	
Horseshoe Lake	13	31'	LMB	
Leland Lake	99.3	20'	BBH BC BG LMB YP	IR
Sandy Shore Lake	36.2	60'	LMB	
Twin Lake, Upper (Deep Lake)	4.6	?	LMB	

## KING COUNTY

Alice Lake	32.6	30'	LMB	
Ames Lake	79.9	28'	LMB	
Angle Lake	102	52'	BBH LMB PS RKB YP	IR,S
Bass Lake	24	40'	BC PS YP	IR
Beaver Lake #1	11.6	55'	BBH LMB YP	S
Beaver Lake #2	61.9	54'	BBH LMB YP	IR,S
Beaver Lake #3	3.4	6'	BBH LMB YP	
Bitter Lake	19.4	31'	BBH BC LMB PS YP	S
Boren Lake	15.3	47'	BBH LMB YP	IR
Bow Lake	12.7	20'	LMB	
Boyle Lake	24	?	LMB YP	(timber co. permit) S
Bridges Lake	34	25'	LMB YP	(timber co. permit) S
Cottage Lake	63.1	25'	BBH BC LMB YP	FP,PR,S
Deep Lake	39	76'	BBH BC YP	S
Desire, Lake	71.6	21'	BBH BG LMB PS YP	FP,IR,S
Dolloff Lake	21.1	19'	BBH BC LMB PS RKB YP	IR,S
Ferwick Lake	17.7	31'	BBH LMB PS YP	FP,PR,S
Fivemile Lake	38.4	32'	LMB	FP,S
Green Lake	255	24'	BBH BC? CC LMB PS RKB SMB TM YP	FP,PR,S
Haller Lake	15.2	36'	BBH BC LMB YP	S
Holm Lake	19.2	31'	LMB	IR
Janicke Slough	10.2	?	LMB YP	S
Kathleen Lake	38.5	?	LMB YP	
Killarney Lake	31.3	15'	BBH LMB PS YP	PR
Klaus Lake	62	25'	LMB YP	(timber co. permit) S
Larsen Lake	7.3	?	BBH LMB YP	FP,S
Leota Lake	10.1	32'	BBH BC BG LMB YP	S
Lucerne Lake	16.1	37'	LMB	
Margaret Lake	43.8	40'	LMB	
Mcdonald Lake	18	30'	LMB	
Meadowbrook Lake	13.9	?	LMB YP	S
Meridian Lake	150	90'	BBH BG CC LMB PS SMB YP	FP,IR,S
Moneysmith Lake	22.4	9'	LMB	
Panther Lake	33	?	LMB	PR,S
Peterson Lake	5.0	?	LMB	S
Phantom Lake	63.2	47'	BBH BC LMB PS YP	FP,IR,S
Pine Lake	86	39'	LMB PS	FP,IR,S
Pipe Lake	52.1	65'	LMB	
Rasmussen Lake	3.5	7'	BBH LMB PS	S
Reid Slough	3.4	?	LMB YP	S
Round Lake	2.6	?	LMB	S
Rutherford Slough	18	?	LMB	S
Sammamish, Lake	4,897	100'	BBH BC LMB PS SMB YP	IR,S



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Water Body Name	Acres	Depth	Fish Species Present	Access
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## KING COUNTY (continued)

Sawyer, Lake	279	?	BBH BC BG LMB PS SMB YP	IR,S
Shadow Lake	49.6	45'	BC LMB PS YP	IR
Spring Lake	67.9	32'	BBH LMB YP	PR
Star Lake	34.4	50'	BBH LMB YP	PR
Steel Lake	46.4	24'	BBH BC LMB PS YP	IR,S
Totem (Wittenmeyer) Lake	3.0	12'	LMB YP	FP,S
Tradition Lake	19.2	?	YP	S
Trout Lake	18.1	27'	BBH BC LMB PS YP	PR
Twelve Lake	43.2	28'	BBH LMB PS YP	IR
Union, Lake	589	54'	BBH BC LMB SMB YP	PR,S
Walker Lake	11.6	54'	PS	PR
Washington, Lake	22,138	209'	BBH BC LMB SMB PS YP	FP,IR,S

## KITSAP COUNTY

Buck Lake	19.8	24'	LMB	
Fairview Lake	7.4	?	BBH LMB	PA
Flora Lake	6.5	?	BBH? LMB PS YP	PA
Horseshoe Lake	40.3	20'	BBH	PR
Island Lake	42.7	35'	BBH LMB	
Kitsap Lake	238	29'	BBH BC BG LMB PS	IR,S
Koeneman Lake	19	25'	LMB	
Long Lake	314	?	BC BG LMB	PR
Ludvick Lake	2.0	?	LMB	
Mission Lake	87.7	25'	BBH	IR,S
Panther Lake	104	25'	BBH	IR,S
Square Lake	7.9	?	LMB	PR,S
Tahuya Lake	17.9	25'	LMB	
Wicks Lake	9.0	8'	LMB	
Wildcat Lake	112	33'	BBH LMB	S
Wye Lake	37.9	20'	BBH LMB	IR,S

## KITTITAS COUNTY

Columbia River reservoirs	---	---	BBH CC SMB WAL YP	IR,S
Mccabe Pond	4.0	12'	CC LMB PS YP	PR
Woodhouse ponds	18	?	BG LMB PS YP	

## KLICKITAT COUNTY

Chamberlain Lake	80.6	12'	BBH BC LMB SMB	
Columbia River reservoirs	---	---	BBH BC CC LMB SMB WAL WC YP	IR,S
Horsethief Lake	91.7	60'	BC BG LMB SMB WAL	IR,S
Locke Lake	20.4	15'	BBH BC LMB SMB	
Rowland Lake	84.7	?	BBH BC BG LMB PS SMB? YBH YP	IR,S
Spearfish Lake	21.8	20'	BC LMB SMB	IR,S

## LEWIS COUNTY

Airport Lake	4.0	12'	BG LMB PS	
Carlisle Lake	20.3	?	BBH BC BG LMB PS WM?	S
Chehalis River (and adjacent ponds)	---	---	LMB RKB	PR
Davis Lake	18	30'	BG LMB PS WM	PR
Mayfield Lake	2,200	185'	BBH TM YP	IR,S
Plummer Lake	12	36'	BG LMB YP	PR,S
Riffe Lake	11,830	350'	BBH BC BG LMB SMB	IR,S
Skookumchuck Slough	8.0	?	LMB	
South Lewis County Park Pond	5.0	?	BC BG LMB PS TM	FP,IR,S
Swofford Pond	240	20'	BBH BC BG CC LMB YP	PR,S

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Water Body Name	Acres	Depth	Fish Species Present								Access
LINCOLN COUNTY											
Coffee Pot Lake	317	75'	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	YP				PR, S
Deer Springs Lake	60.3	65'	LMB								
"H" Lake	26	?	BC	BG	LMB						
Icehouse Lake	5.0	?	LMB								
Roosevelt Lake (see Stevens County)											
Spokane River	---	---	BC	BG	LMB	NP	SMB	WAL	YP		
Sprague Lake (see Adams County)											
Twin Lake, Lower	44.9	10'	LMB	PS	YP						
Twin Lake, Upper	39.2	64'	BC	LMB	PS	YP					
Wall Lake	32	10'	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP				
Wederspahn Lake	14	?	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP				
MASON COUNTY											
Beaver Pond (Section 1)	25	?	BG	LMB							
Benson Lake	81.8	35'	LMB								
Blacksmith Lake	18.3	?	LMB								
Camp Pond	6.0	?	LMB								
Collins Lake	4.3	20'	BBH	LMB							
Cushman Lake (Reservoir)	4,003	115'	LMB								S, IR
Forbes Lake	38.4	?	LMB								
Hanks Lake	27	8'	LMB								
Isabella Lake	208	23'	BBH	LMB							IR
Island Lake	109	31'	BBH	LMB	PS	SMB	YP				IR
Jiggs Lake	8.8	18'	LMB	YP							
Limerick, Lake	105	?	BBH	LMB	PS	YP					S
Lost Lake	122	65'	BBH								PR
Mason Lake	996	90'	BBH?	LMB	RKB	YP					IR, PA
Nahwatzel Lake	269	25'	LMB	PS							IR
Phillips Lake	111	25'	LMB								IR
Simpson Lake	29.4	17 '	BBH	LMB							
Spencer Lake	220	36'	BBH	LMB	PS						PR
Stump Lake	23.2	?	LMB								
Tee Lake	38.4	17'	LMB	YP							IR
Trails End Lake	68.1	30'	BBH								PR
West Lake	16.5	21'	BBH								
OKANOGAN COUNTY											
Bonaparte Lake	167	109'	SMB								
Bonner Lake	15.7	32'	BC	LMB							
Booher Lake	16	35'	LMB								
Buck Lake	15.3	25'	BBH	LMB							
Columbia River reservoirs (see Douglas County)											
Conconully Lake	313	109'	LMB								PR
Crumbacher Lake	6.0	35'	LMB								
Duck Lake	29.1	65'	BC	LMB							IR
Fry Lake	10	48'	BC	LMB							
Indian Dan Canyon Lake	13.8	25'	BG	LMB							PR
Okanogan River	---	---	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YP			PR, S
Osoyoos Lake	2,036	?	BC	LMB	SMB	YP					IR, S
Palmer Lake	2,063	91'	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	YP			PR
Roosevelt, Lake (see Stevens County)											
Silvermail Lake (juveniles only)	6.0	17'	LMB								S
Stevens Lake	12	?	BC								
Washburn Island Pond	130	?	BC	BG	CC	LMB					PR, S
Whitestone Lake	170	26'	BBH	BG	CC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP		IR, S

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<u>Water Body Name</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Fish Species Present</u>	<u>Access</u>
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## PACIFIC COUNTY

Black Lake	30	?	BBH BC BG LMB YP	FP,PR,S
Breaker Lake	20.3	7'	LMB YP	
Clam Lake	9.9	8'	LMB YP	
Cranberry Lake	18.1	8'	LMB YP	
Deer Lake	7.6	6'	LMB YP	
Fort Canby (O'neil) Lake	10	?	LMB	
Freshwater Lake	5.1	7'	LMB YP	
Gile Lake	18	?	LMB YP	
Island Lake	55.8	8'	LMB YP	S
Litschke Lake	5.2	6'	LMB YP	
Loomis Lake	151	9'	BBH BC BG LMB PS YP	FP,PR
Lost Lake	1.5	?	YP	
Skating Lake	66	?	YP	
Tape Lake	9.9	7'	LMB YP	
Tinker Lake	11	6'	LMB YP	

## PEND OREILLE COUNTY

Boundary Reservoir	1,600	330'	LMB YP	
Box Canyon Reservoir	6,000	?	BBH BC LMB YP	IR,PA
Chain Lake	77.6	125'	LMB YP	S
Davis Lake	146	146'	LMB	S
Diamond Lake	755	58'	BBH BC BG GS LMB PS YP	PR
Horseshoe Lake	128	?	BC LMB YP	IR,S
Nile Lake	22.8	28'	PS	S
Sacheen Lake	282	40'	BBH BC GS LMB PS YP	IR,PA

## PIERCE COUNTY

Alder Lake	2,931	280'	BBH BC LMB YP	IR,S
American Lake	1,125	90'	BBH LMB PS RKB SMB YP	FP,IR,S,PA
Bay Lake	130	11'	LMB BBH	IR
Bonney Lake	17.4	23'	BBH LMB PS RKB YP	PR
Chambers Lake	80	?	LMB	
Clear Lake	155	88'	LMB	IR
Crescent Lake	46.8	29'	LMB	IR
Florence Lake	66.5	36'	BG LMB	PR
Forest Lake	6.3	34'	PS RKB	
Harts (Hart) Lake	109	50'	BBH BC CC LMB PS YP	IR,S
Hart Lake, Little	10.6	10'	BBH	
Jackson Lake	15.8	30'	BBH BC BG LMB	
Kapowsin Lake	512	58'	BBH BC BG LMB PS RKB YP	PA,S
Louise Lake	39.1	35'	BBH LMB	
Ohop Lake	236	25'	BBH BC BG LMB PS YP	IR,S
Rapjohn Lake	55.8	18'	BBH BC LMB PS YP	IR
Silver Lake	138	25'	BBH BC LMB PS YP	IR
Spanaway Lake	262	28'	BBH BC LMB PS RKB SMB YP	IR,S
Steilacoom Lake	313	23'	BBH LMB RKB	
Tanwax Lake	173	30'	BBH BC BG LMB PS YP	IR,S
Tapps Lake	2,296	38'	BC BG LMB RKB SMB TM YP	FP,IR,S,PA
Tule Lake	30.8	10'	BBH BC LMB YP	
Wapato (Derby) Lake	28.2	13'	BBH PS	S
Whitman Lake	29.6	?	BBH BC BG LMB PS? YP	PR

## SAN JUAN COUNTY

Egg Lake	6.6	17'	LMB	PR,S
Hummel Lake	36.1	12'	BBH BG CC LMB	IR
Killebrew Lake	13.2	?	BG LMB YP	
Sportsman Lake	66	10'	LMB PS YP	IR

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<u>Water Body Name</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Fish Species Present</u>										<u>Access</u>
<b>SKAGIT COUNTY</b>													
Beaver Lake	73.4	10'	BBH	BC	LMB	YP							IR
Big Lake	545	?	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	YP						PR
Campbell Lake	410	22'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	YP				IR
Cannery Lake	18	12'	BBH	YP									
Caskey Lake	5.0	?	BBH										
Cavanaugh Lake	844	80'	LMB										IR,S
Clear Lake	223	44'	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	YP						IR
Cranberry Lake, Little	26.8	20'	LMB										
Erie Lake	111	12'	LMB										IR
Grandy Lake	56	15'	LMB										
Mcmurray Lake	161	52'	BC	LMB	YP								IR,S
Minkler Lake	36.7	10'	LMB										
Mud Lake	10	?	BBH	BC	LMB	YP							
Whistle Lake	29.7	?	LMB	YP									S
<b>SKAMANIA COUNTY</b>													
Ashes (Little Ash) Lake	51.2	25'	BG	CC	LMB	SMB							S
Bass Lake	10	10'	BG	LMB									
Columbia River	---	---	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WAL	WC	YP		IR,S
Grant Lake	11	?	BBH	BG	CC	LMB							
Ice House Lake	2.5	30'	BG	LMB									S
Tunnel Lake	13.2	30'	LMB										S
<b>SNOHOMISH COUNTY</b>													
Armstrong Lake	30.7	24'	LMB										IR
Ballinger Lake	103	35'	BBH	BC	LMB	YP							FP,IR,S
Beecher Lake	16.7	?	LMB	PS	YP								S
Blackman's Lake	60.1	29'	BBH	LMB	YP								FP,PR,S
Bosworth Lake	95.4	79'	LMB										IR,S
Bryant Lake	20.2	40'	BC	LMB									IR
Cassidy Lake	125	20'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	YP					PR,S
Chain Lake	22.8	?	BC	LMB	PS								S
Chase Lake	0.8	?	LMB										S
Crabapple Lake	36.3	49'	PS										IR
Crescent Lake	8.8	8'	LMB	YP									S
Flowing Lake	135	69'	LMB										IR,S
Gissburg (Twin) ponds (North juveniles only)	17	?	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	YP					S
Goodwin Lake	547	53'	BBH	BC	LMB	SMB	PS	YP					IR,S
Howard Lake	27.1	51'	LMB										
Kellogg Lake	20.2	15'	BC	LMB	YP								S
Ketchum Lake	19.6	30'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	YP					S
Ki Lake	97.4	70'	LMB	YP									S
Loma Lake	21.1	28'	LMB	PS									PR
Martha Lake (Alderwood Manor)	59.3	?	BBH	LMB	YP								IR
Martha Lake, Little	13.4	?	BBH	LMB	YP								S
Panther Lake	46.7	36'	BBH	BC	LMB	PS							IR,S
Roesiger Lake	352	115'	BC	LMB	PS	YP							FP,S
Ruggs Lake	11.5	15'	BBH										S
Scriber Lake	3.4	?	LMB	YP									FP,S
Shoecraft Lake	137	38'	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP						PR
Stevens Lake	1,021	160'	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP					FP,IR,S,PA
Stickney Lake	25.7	?	BBH	BC	LMB	YP							IR
Storm Lake	78.1	46'	LMB										IR
Sunday Lake	38.7	20'	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	YP						PR
Thomas Lake	7.2	10'	LMB										
Wagner Lake	19.5	22'	LMB										IR

**SPECIES KEY:** BBH = brown bullhead; BC = black crappie; BG = bluegill; BLB = black bullhead; CC = channel catfish; GP = grass pickerel; GS = green sunfish; LMB = largemouth bass; NP = northern pike; PS = pumpkinseed; RKB = rock bass; SMB = smallmouth bass; TM = tiger musky; WAL = walleye; WC = white crappie; WM = warmouth; YBH = yellow bullhead; YP = yellow perch

**ACCESS KEY:** FP = fishing pier; IR = improved (hard surface) ramp; PR = primitive ramp; S = shoreline; PA = private access (resorts, etc.)

Water Body Name	Acres	Depth	Fish Species Present	Access
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## SPOKANE COUNTY

Bear Lake (family fishing rules)	34	50'	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP						S		
Bonnie Lake (outlet in Whitman Co.)	366	40'	LMB	BC	YP										
Chapman Lake	146	160'	LMB	SMB											
Clear Lake	375	?	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	WAL						IR,S		
Downs Lake	423	20'	BBH	BC	BLB	LMB	PS	YBH	YP				IR		
Eloika Lake	659	15'	BBH	BC	BLB	GS	LMB	PS	YBH	YP				IR,S	
Horseshoe Lake	67.9	?	BBH												
Liberty Lake	711	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	WAL	YBH	YP			IR,S	
Long Lake (Reservoir)	5,020	?	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	YBH	YP						IR,S
Medical Lake	149	60'	LMB											S	
Newman Lake	1,190	30'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	TM	WAL	YBH	YP			IR,S
Queen Lucas Lake	37	?	YP												
Silver Lake	472	80	BC	BG	LMB	PS	TM	YP							IR
Spokane River	---	---	BC	BG	LMB	NP	SMB	WAL	YBH	YP					

## STEVENS COUNTY

Deer Lake	1,163	75'	BC	LMB	PS	SMB	YP											IR,S
Jump-off-Joe Lake	105	24'	LMB	PS	YP													S
Loon Lake	1,119	104'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	SMB	YP									PR,S
Pierre Lake	106	75'	BBH	BC	LMB													PR,S
Roosevelt, Lake (Grand Coulee Res.)	79,000	375'	BC	BG	LMB	SMB	WAL	YP										IR,S
Spokane River	---	---	BC	BG	LMB	NP	SMB	WAL	YP									
Waitts Lake	455	68'	LMB	YP														PR,S

## THURSTON COUNTY

Alder Lake (see Pierce County)																			
Bald Hill Lake	44.8	15'	LMB	YP															
Barnes Lake	14	?	BC	BG	LMB														
Bass Lake	6.6	10'	LMB	YP															
Bigelow Lake	13.8	15'	LMB	YP															
Black Lake	576	40'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	RKB	SMB	YP								IR	
Chambers Lake, Little	49.1	7'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	YP												
Chambers Lake, Big (Russell)	72.5	8'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	YP	WM									IR	
Clear Lake	173	25'	LMB															IR,S	
Coopers potholes	4.9	45'	LMB																
Deep Lake	66.1	17'	BG	LMB	PS	YP												FP,PR,S	
Elbow Lake	36	15'	LMB	YP														PR,S	
Fifteen Lake	4.2	12'	LMB																
Gehrke Lake	8.0	10'	LMB																
Grass Lake	120	?	BBH	BC	LMB	YP													
Hewitt Lake	26.6	60'	BC	LMB	YP														
Hicks Lake	171	36'	BBH	BC	LMB	PS	RKB	WM	YP									IR	
Lawrence Lake	339	26'	BBH	LMB	YP													IR	
Long Lake	311	?	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	RKB	WM	YP								IR	
Mcintosh Lake	116	11'	LMB	YP														IR	
Munn Lake	29.8	19'	LMB	BG														IR	
Offutt Lake	192	25'	BBH	LMB	YP													IR	
Pattison Lake	257	20'	BC	BG	LMB	RKB	YP											IR	
Pitman Lake	27	15'	BBH	LMB	YP														
Reichel Lake	9.0	12'	LMB																
Scott Lake	66.8	18'	BBH	LMB	YP														
Simmons Lake	24.6	12'	LMB	YP															
Smith Lake	17.7	10'	LMB	YP															
Southwick Lake	37.1	10'	BBH	LMB															
Springer Lake	5.5	10'	BBH	BG	LMB														
St Clair Lake	245	110'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	PS	RKB	WC?	WM?	YP							IR	
Summit Lake	523	100'	BBH	LMB	YP													IR	
Susan Lake	3.5	15'	BG	LMB															
Trosper Lake	17	12'	BG	BC	LMB	YP													
Ward Lake	66.8	67'	BC	BG	LMB													IR	



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<u>Water Body Name</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Depth</u>	<u>Fish Species Present</u>								<u>Access</u>
<b>WALLA WALLA COUNTY</b>											
Bennington Lake (Mill Creek Res.)	52	13'	BBH	BC	BG	LMB	YBH	YP	IR,S		
Burbank Slough	700	11'	BG	LMB							
Casey Pond	60	12'	BC	LMB	SMB	YP					
Curlew Pond	35	7'	BG	LMB							
Snake River reservoirs	---	---	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WC	YP	IR,S	
<b>WHATCOM COUNTY</b>											
Barrett Lake	40	?	LMB								
Cain Lake	72.2	62'	LMB	YP	PR						
Fazon Lake	32	?	BBH	BG	CC	LMB	TM	YBH?	YP	IR,S,PA	
Green Lake	19.5	?	BBH	YP							
Jorgenson Lake	12	?	BBH								
Mosquito Lake	7.0	?	BBH	CC							
Mud Lake	0.3	?	BBH	BC	YP						
Samish Lake	810	145'	BC	LMB	YP	IR					
Sunset Pond	17	36'	BBH	BG	LMB	YBH	YP	S			
Tennant Lake	43	?	LMB								
Terrell, Lake	438	11'	BBH	BG	CC	LMB	PS	YP	FP,IR,S		
Whatcom Lake	5,003	311'	BBH	LMB	PS	SMB	YP				
Wiser Lake	123	?	BBH	BC	LMB	YP	IR				
<b>WHITMAN COUNTY</b>											
Lower Granite Reservoir	9,000	?	BC	BG	CC	LMB	SMB	WC	YP	IR,S	
Rock Lake	2,147	320'	BC	LMB	IR						
<b>YAKIMA COUNTY</b>											
Byron Pond	50	8'	LMB	PS							
Granger Pond	5.0	?	BG	LMB	PS						
I-82 Pond #1	15	30'	BG	LMB	PS	YP	S				
I-82 Pond #2	25.5	30'	BBH	LMB	PS	YP	S				
I-82 Pond #3	19	25'	BBH	BC	BG	BLB	CC	LMB	PS	YP	S
I-82 Pond #4	29.5	35'	BBH	BC	BG	CC	LMB	PS	PR		
I-82 Pond #5	27	35'	BBH	BC	BG	BLB	CC	LMB	PS	YP	S
I-82 Pond #6 (Buena)	30	20'	BBH	CC	LMB	S					
I-82 Pond #7	8.0	10'	BC	CC	LMB	PS	S				
Rotary Lake	23.2	30'	BG	CC	LMB	PS	FP,S				
Sarge Hubbard Pond (juveniles only)	3.5	?	BG	FP,S							
Wenas Lake	61.4	55'	CC	IR,S							
Yakima River (Prosser to Wapato Dam)	59.5 river miles		CC	LMB	SMB	S					